

Message Text

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SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS AND POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO BELGIUM'S CCP

1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT COMMERCE IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF FORMING ONE OR MORE NEW TRADE MISSIONS WHICH MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR BELGIUM. WE HAVE SOME COMMENTS TO OFFER ON THESE PROPOSALS.

2. SECURITY SYSTEMS. WHILE EMBASSY HAS NOT YET MADE DETAILED STUDY OF MARKET FOR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS AND PRODUCTS, WE ARE CONVINCED THAT NEED IN BELGIUM IS GREAT AND THAT MISSION, WHICH POSSIBLY COULD BE SET UP FOR LATE NEXT SPRING, SHOULD PROVE SUCCESSFUL. FOR THIS REASON WE ARE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PROPOSAL. POPULAR BELIEF HERE IS THAT NEED FOR GREATER PROTECTION OF GOODS AND PERSONS DEFINITELY EXISTS. INCIDENTS OF LAWLESSNESS, ONCE EXTREMELY RARE IN BELGIUM, HAVE INCREASED NOTABLY IN PAST SEVERAL YEARS AND BANKS AND RETAIL STORES ARE NOW VERY MUCH AWARE OF NEED FOR ADEQUATE SECURITY MEASURES. THIS NEED HAS LITTLE IF ANY BEARING ON CURRENT DEPRESSED STATE OF ECONOMY AND INDEED MAY BE IN INVERSE RATIO TO LOCAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

3. TECHNICAL SEMINAR ON MEDICAL EQUIPMENT EMBASSY WOULD ALSO WELCOME TECHNICAL TRADE MISSION ON MEDICAL EQUIPMENT. THE CONTINUING IMPRESSIVE TECHNICAL ADVANCES IN US ARE SUFFICIENT TO ENSURE BELGIAN MARKET INTEREST IN SUCH TRADE MISSION AND SEMINAR. WE BELIEVE THAT INTRODUCING SUCH TRADE MISSION WOULD NOT REQUIRE IMPORTANT MODIFICATIONS OF

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CCP. MISSION COULD BE CONSIDERED ADDITION TO CAMPAIGN NO. 1

"LABORATORY INSTRUMENTS", AND COULD BE CCP SUBSTITUTED FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DAY ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR UDIAS-LAB INSTRUMENT SHOW, NOW POSTPONED UNTIL 1977. IN ADDITION TO HOLDING SEMINAR IN BRUSSELS, CONSIDERATION MIGHT BE GIVEN TO MOVING SEMINAR ON SECOND DAY TO GHENT. UNIVERSITY OF GHENT IS LEADING MEDICAL TRAINING CENTER FOR FLEMISH AREA AND ALONG WITH LOUVAIN AND BRUSSELS FOR BELGIUM AS WHOLE IF SPACE AT UNIVERSITY COULD BE OBTAINED FOR SEMINAR, PRESTIGE AND IMPACT OF MISSION WOULD BE ENHANCED.

4. ENERGY SYSTEMS TRADE MISSION. WE SEE SOME DIFFICULTIES AND ANALYSIS OF MARKET NEEDED BEFORE WE CAN COMMENT ON ITS DESIRABILITY.
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